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S E C R E T USUN 3175

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR, TU, UN
SUBJ: TURKISH DEMARCHE TO WALDHEIM ON CYPRUS
REF: ATHENS 6701; NICOSIA 2087

1. SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS (PROTECT) HAVE SHOWN US LETTER FROM GUNES TO WALDHEIM ASKING SYG TO PROVIDE UNFICYP ESCORT FOR TURK CYPRIOTS FROM SOUTHERN ENCLAVES TO TURKISH CONTROLLED AREA IN NORTH. (WHILE REQUEST FOR UN ESCORT WAS CONTAINED IN GUNES LETTER, OLCAY ORALLY MADE OTHER POINTS ATTRIBUTED TO HIM IN ATHENS REFTEL.)

2. LETTER BEGAN BY PROTESTING A) REPORTED STATEMENTS OF UNSYG SPECIAL REP WECKMANN THAT UNFICYP COULD NOT PROTECT TURKISH ENCLAVES IF WARFARE EXTENDED SOUTHWARD AND B) UNFICYP OFFICER'S REMARK THAT UN TROOPS HAD STRENGTH TO DEFEND NICOSIA AIRPORT SUCCESSFULLY. GUNES ASKED UNDER WHAT TERMS OF MANDATE SUCH STATEMENTS WERE MADE. HE THEN DESCRIBED PLIGHT OF TURK CYPRIOTS IN SOUTH AND REQUESTED
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 6 MAY 1982

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UNFICYP ESCORT. TONE OF LETTER STRUCK US AS BRUSQUE.

3. SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS SAID WALDHEIM COULD NOT POSSIBLY AGREE TO ESCORT WITHOUT CLERIDES' APPROVAL. THIS, THEY SAID, CLERIDES WAS IN NO POSITION TO GIVE IN LIGHT OF STRONGLY OPPOSED GREEK CYPRIOT PUBLIC OPINION. ACCORDINGLY, UN RESPONSE TO GOT, WHICH HAD NOT YET BEEN PREPARED, WOULD HAVE TO BE NEGATIVE.

4. UN OFFICIALS NOTED THAT PROTECTION OF TURK CYPRIOT ENCLAVES WAS BEING DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSIONS OF CLERIDES-DENKTASH TALKS. THEY SAID CLERIDES HAD BEEN MOST COOPERATIVE, AND HAD AGREED TO UN INTERIM PROPOSAL TO ENSURE SAFETY OF ISOLATED TURKISH ENCLAVES. BASIS OF PROPOSAL IS THAT UNFICYP WOULD UNDERTAKE PROTECTION OF TURK CYPRIOT ENCLAVES, REPLACING CYPOL AND NATIONAL GUARD ELEMENTS. TURKS HAVE NOT ACCEPTED THIS.

5. UN BELIEVES TURK CYPRIOTS IN SOUTH ARE IN NO IMMINENT DANGER -- UNLESS WAR AGAIN BREAKS OUT. GREATEST THREAT TO TURK CYPRIOTS, THEY POINT OUT, WOULD BE TURKISH MILIATY ATTEMPT TO RESCUE THEM IN ONE ENCLAVE, FOR EXAMPLE LARANCA. IN THAT CASE, TURK CYPRIOTS IN LIMASSOL, PAPHOS AND OTHER ENCLAVES WOULD DOUBTLESS BE MURDERED. UN HAS HAD "HINTS," BUT NO WOLID EVIDENCEN OF TURKISH INTENTION TO LAUNCH SUCH AN OPERATION. THEY HOPE US WILL BE ABLE TO EXERT RESTRAINING INFLUENCE.
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